

Message Text

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15

ACTION EA-10

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PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /081 W

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R 261112Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1390

INFO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 15829

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, VS, JA

SUBJECT: JAPANESE EMBASSY REQUEST FOR ICCS ASSISTNACE

IN RELEASE OF TWO JAPANESE NATIONALS HELD

BY PRG

1. ON DECEMBER 20 THE JAPANESE EMBASSY SENT A NOTE VERBALE TO THE ICCS ASKING ITS ASSISTANCE IN FACILITATING THE RELEASE OF TWO JAPANESE NATIONALS BEING HELD BY THE "SO-CALLED NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT" IN THE VICINITY OF DINH QUAN DISTRICT, LONG KHANH PROVINCE.

2. FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF THE NOTE VERBALE: BEGIN QTE

THE EMBASSY OF JAPAN PRESENTS ITS COMPLIMENTS TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF CONTROL AND SUPERVISION IN VIETNAM AND HAS THE HONOR TO KINDLY REQUEST SPECIAL ASSISTANCE OF THE COMMISSION TO THE PROCESS OF RELEASE OF TWO JAPANESE NATIONALS WHO ARE BEING DETAINED BY THE SO-CALLED NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT IN THE VICINITY OF DCNH QUAN DISTRICT, LONG KHANH PROVINCE.

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1. KEIJIRO NAKAMURA, AGE 32, AN AGRICULTURAL EXPERT DISPATCHED BY THE JAPANESE INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AGENCY (JICA) TO BAO DOC SERICULTURAL EXPERIMENT CENTER AND HIS FRIEND PUMIO IWASHINA, AGE 25, A VOLUNTEER EXPERT IN MUSHROOM RAISING, HAVE BEEN MISSING SINCE DECEMBER 7, ON THEIR WAY TO SAIGON.

2. ACCORDING TO PRIVATE CONTACT, IT HAS BEEN ASCERTAINED THAT THE TWO SAID JAPANESE ARE SAFELY BEING DETAINED BY THE SO-CALLED NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT AROUND TRA CO VILLAGE, 8 KM SOUTH EAST OF DOAN KET VILLAGE.

3. CONDITIONS FOR THE RELEASE OF THE SAID JAPANESE HAVE BEEN SUGGESTED BY THE SO-CALLED NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT THROUGH PRIVATE CHANNEL, STIPULATING THAT AN ICCS VEHICLE SHOULD BE PROVIDED IN ORDER TO HELP GUARANTEE THE SAFE RELEASE OF THE SAID JAPANESE AND THAT A SAFE GUARANTEE SHOULD BE MADE BY THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT, WHICH IS BEING REQUESTED BY THE EMBASSY.

4. THE TIME OF RELEASE IS VERY PROVISIONALLY SET ON THE NOON OF SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22ND, 1974, SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION OF THE PARTIES INVOLVED AND THE PLACE FOR RELEASE BEING SET ON THE PATH LEADING TO TRA CO VILLAGE FROM DOAN KET VILLAGE, 3 KM FROM DOAN KET TOWARDS TRA CO VILLAGE.

5. ABOVE BEING THE CASE, IT WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED IF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF CONTROL AND SUPERVISION IN VIETNAM WOULD PROVIDE PERSONNEL AND ONE OR TWO JEEPS FOR THE RELEASE WHICH IS PROVISIONALLY ARRANGED FOR NOON 22ND. A HIGH OFFICIAL OF THE EMBASSY AND A JAPANESE DOCTOR WOULD ACCOMPANY THE PERSONNEL OF THE ICCS IF THE COMMISSION WOULD KINDLY ACCEPT THE REQUEST ON THE PART OF THE JAPANESE EMBASSY.

THE EMBASSY OF JAPAN AVAILS ITSELF OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RENEW TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF CONTROL AND SUPERVISION IN VIETNAM THE ASSURANCES OF ITS HIGHEST CONSIDERATION. DECEMBER 20, 1974. END QTE.

3. ACCORDING TO INDODEL AMBASSADOR SUHUD, THE ICCS HELD A CONSULTATION CONCERNING THIS REQUEST ON DECEMBER 21. THE TWO COMMUNIST DELEGATIONS REFUSED TO ALLOW THE ICCS TO BECOME CONFIDENTIAL

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"OFFICIALLY INVOLVED", CLAIMING THAT IT WAS NOT AN ICCS MATTER; HOWEVER, THEY DID AGREE, FOR HUMANITARIAN REASONS, TO THE IRANIAN CHAIRMAN'S ATTEMPTING TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUEST INFORMALLY. THE ACTING HEAD OF THE IRANIAN DELEGATION CONTACTED THE RVN-TPJMC AND OBTAINED SECURITY GUARANTEES; HOWEVER, THIS INFORMAL ARRANGEMENT FAILED BECAUSE THE PRG DID NOT HONOR ITS PRIVATE COMMITMENT TO THE JAPANESE EMBASSY. AS OF DECEMBER 26 THE TWO JAPANESE HAVE NOT BEEN RE-

LEASED.

4. WE NOTE THAT BY USING THE PHRASE "SO-CALLED NLF" THE
JAPANESE ARE TAKING A FIRM LINE APPARENTLY INTENDED TO MAKE
CLEAR THEY ARE NOT PREPARED TO MAKE POLITICAL CONCESSIONS
TO THE "PRG".

MARTIN

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NNN

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